


Murkowski #1AMENDMENT NO. 1 Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To provide for a wage differential program to support new nursing school faculty members.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—119th Cong., 2d Sess.

S. 1874

To amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize certain nursing workforce development programs, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI

Viz:

1 At the appropriate place, insert the following:

2 **SEC. ____ . NURSE FACULTY DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.**

3 Section 846A of the Public Health Service Act (42

4 U.S.C. 297n-1) is amended—

5 (1) by amending subsection (a) to read as fol-

6 lows:

7 “(a) IN GENERAL.—To increase the number of quali-

8 fied nursing faculty, the Secretary may—

9 “(1) enter into an agreement with any accred-

10 ited school of nursing for the establishment and op-

1 eration of a student loan fund in accordance with
2 subsection (b); and

3 “(2) award nurse faculty grants in accordance
4 with subsection (c).”;

5 (2) in subsection (b)—

6 (A) by redesignating subparagraphs (A)
7 through (D) of paragraph (2) as clauses (i)
8 through (iv), respectively, and adjusting the
9 margins accordingly;

10 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (1)
11 through (5) as subparagraphs (A) through (E),
12 respectively, and adjusting the margins accord-
13 ingly;

14 (C) in subparagraph (C), as so redesign-
15 ated, by striking “subsection (c)” and insert-
16 ing “paragraph (2)”; and

17 (D) by striking “(b) AGREEMENTS—Each
18 agreement entered into under subsection (a)
19 shall—” and inserting the following:

20 “(b) SCHOOL OF NURSING STUDENT LOAN FUND.—

21 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each agreement entered
22 into under subsection (a)(1) shall—”;

23 (3) in subsection (c)—

24 (A) by striking “subsection (a)” each place
25 it appears and inserting “subsection (a)(1)”;

1 (B) in paragraph (3), by redesignating
2 subparagraphs (A) and (B) as clauses (i) and
3 (ii), respectively, and adjusting the margins ac-
4 cordingly;

5 (C) in paragraph (6), by redesignating
6 subparagraphs (A) and (B) as clauses (i) and
7 (ii), respectively, and adjusting the margins ac-
8 cordingly;

9 (D) by redesignating paragraphs (1)
10 through (6) as subparagraphs (A) through (F),
11 respectively, and adjusting the margins accord-
12 ingly; and

13 (E) in subparagraph (F)(ii), as so redesign-
14 ated, by striking “subsection (e)” and insert-
15 ing “paragraph (4)”;

16 (4) in subsection (c), by striking “subsection
17 (c)(6)(B)” and inserting “paragraph (2)(F)(ii)”;

18 (5) by redesignating subsections (c) through (e)
19 as paragraphs (2) through (4), respectively, and ad-
20 justing the margins accordingly; and

21 (6) by adding at the end the following:

22 “(c) NURSE FACULTY DEMONSTRATION PRO-
23 GRAM.—

24 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall estab-
25 lish and carry out a demonstration program de-

1 scribed in subsection (a)(2) under which eligible
2 schools of nursing receive a grant for purposes of
3 supplementing the salaries of eligible nursing faculty
4 members to enhance recruitment and retention of
5 nursing faculty members.

6 “(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible to re-
7 ceive a grant under this subsection, an entity shall—

8 “(A) be an accredited school of nursing;
9 and

10 “(B) submit an application to the Sec-
11 retary, at such time, in such manner, and con-
12 taining such information as the Secretary may
13 require, including—

14 “(i)(I) to the extent such information
15 is available to the school of nursing, the
16 salary history of nursing faculty at such
17 school who previously were nurses in clin-
18 ical practice, for the most recent 3-year pe-
19 riod ending on the date of application, ad-
20 justed for inflation as appropriate and bro-
21 ken down by credentials, experience, and
22 levels of education of such nurses; or

23 “(II) if the information described in
24 subclause (I) is not available, information
25 on the average local salary of nurses in

1 clinical practice, adjusted for inflation as
2 appropriate and broken down by creden-
3 tials, experience, and levels of education of
4 the individual nurses, in accordance with
5 such requirements as the Secretary may
6 specify;

7 “(ii) an attestation of the average
8 nursing faculty salary at the school of
9 nursing during the most recent 3-year pe-
10 riod prior to the date of application, ad-
11 justed for inflation, as appropriate, broken
12 down by credentials, experience, and levels
13 of education of such faculty members;

14 “(iii) the number of nursing faculty
15 member vacancies at the entity at the time
16 of application, and the entity’s projection
17 of such vacancies over the ensuing 5-year
18 period; and

19 “(iv) a description of the entity’s
20 plans to identify funding sources to
21 sustainably continue, after the 3-year
22 grant period, the salary available to the eli-
23 gible nursing faculty member pursuant to
24 the program under this subsection during
25 such grant program and to retain eligible

1 nursing faculty members after the end of
2 the grant period.

3 “(3) AWARDS.—A grant awarded under this
4 subsection, with respect to supporting eligible nurs-
5 ing faculty members, shall—

6 “(A) be awarded to the school of nursing
7 to supplement the salaries of eligible faculty
8 members at the school of nursing, annually, for
9 up to a 3-year period, in an amount equal to,
10 for each eligible nursing faculty member at the
11 eligible entity during the grant period, the dif-
12 ference between—

13 “(i) the average salary of nurses in
14 clinical practice, as submitted under sub-
15 clause (I) or (II) of paragraph (2)(B)(i);
16 and

17 “(ii) the greater of—

18 “(I) the salary for the eligible
19 nursing faculty member at the school
20 of nursing; or

21 “(II) the average nursing faculty
22 salary, as submitted under paragraph
23 (2)(B)(ii) for faculty members with
24 the same or similar credentials and
25 level of education;

1 “(B) notwithstanding section 803(a), be
2 used in its entirety to supplement the eligible
3 faculty member’s salary; and

4 “(C) be conditioned upon the school of
5 nursing maintaining, for each year in which the
6 award is made as described in subparagraph
7 (A), a salary for such faculty member at a level
8 that is not less than the greater of the amount
9 under subclause (I) or (II) of subparagraph
10 (A)(ii).

11 “(4) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this
12 subsection, the Secretary shall—

13 “(A) ensure the equitable geographic dis-
14 tribution of awards;

15 “(B) give priority to applications from
16 schools of nursing that demonstrate—

17 “(i) the greatest need for such grant,
18 which may be based upon the financial cir-
19 cumstances of the school of nursing, the
20 number of eligible nurse faculty members,
21 the planned number of students to be
22 trained or admitted off a wait list; or

23 “(ii) training or partnerships to serve
24 vulnerable patient populations, such as
25 through the location or activity of a school

1 in a health professional shortage area (as
2 defined in section 332); and

3 “(C) ensure that not less than 20 percent
4 of the total amount awarded is awarded to eligi-
5 ble entities located in States with populations
6 under 1,500,000.

7 “(5) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in
8 this subsection precludes a school of nursing or an
9 eligible nursing faculty member receiving an award
10 under this section from obtaining or receiving any
11 other form of Federal support or funding.

12 “(6) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the
13 date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary
14 shall submit to the Committee on Finance and the
15 Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pen-
16 sions of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and
17 Means and the Committee on Energy and Commerce
18 of the House of Representatives, a report that evalu-
19 ates the program established under this subsection,
20 including—

21 “(A) the impact of such program on re-
22 cruitment and retention rates of nursing fac-
23 ulty, as available, and specifically for each fac-
24 ulty member participating in the program; and

1 “(B) recommendations and considerations
2 for Congress on continuing the program under
3 this subsection.

4 “(7) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

5 “(A) ELIGIBLE NURSING FACULTY MEM-
6 BER.—The term ‘eligible nursing faculty mem-
7 ber’ means a nursing faculty member who—

8 “(i) was hired by a school of nursing
9 within the 2-year period preceding the sub-
10 mission of an application under paragraph
11 (2), or a prospective nursing faculty mem-
12 ber;

13 “(ii) is currently employed at the
14 school of nursing and who demonstrates
15 the need for such support;

16 “(iii) previously worked as a nurse in
17 clinical practice or as a nurse faculty mem-
18 ber at another school of nursing; or

19 “(iv) may work on a part-time basis
20 as a nursing faculty member, for whom
21 such award amounts described in para-
22 graph (3) shall be prorated relative to the
23 amount of time participating in part-time
24 teaching.

1 “(B) INFLATION.—The term ‘inflation’
2 means the Consumer Price Index for all urban
3 consumers (all items; U.S. city average).

4 “(8) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
5 To carry out this subsection, there is authorized to
6 be appropriated \$15,000,000 for the period of fiscal
7 years 2027 through 2031.

8 “(9) SUNSET.—The authority of the Secretary
9 to award grants under this section shall terminate
10 on September 30, 2031. Any grant awarded before
11 such date shall continue in accordance with the
12 terms of the grant, but no grant may be awarded
13 under this subsection after such date.”.